

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GUATEM 03739 181648Z

63

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-03 H-02 PRS-01 EB-07 /056 W

----- 115851

R 181505Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7431

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUATEMALA 3739

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, EINV, GT

SUBJECT: WALL STREET JOURNAL STORY REGARDING DEL MONTE AND
GUATEMALA

REF: STATE 168317

1. VERY MUCH APPRECIATE DEPT'S PROMPT RESPONSE (REFTEL)
TO GUATEMALA 3672.

2. AMBASSADOR CONVEYED INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTTEL
TO FOREIGN MINISTER MONINA JULY 17. MOLINA EXPRESSED
HIS APPRECIATION AND SAID HE WOULD CONVEY THIS RESPONSE
IMMEDIATELY TO THE PRESIDENT.

3. MOLINA WAS ESPECIALLY IMPRESSED AND PLEASED TO
NOTE THAT DEPT READS STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO DEL
MONTE OFFICIALS AS TENDING TO ABSOLVE RATHER THAN
ACCUSE GOG OFFICIALS OF WRONGDOING, THAT WSJ REPORTERS
AFTER EXHAUSTIVE INVESTIGATION WERE UNABLE TO ESTABLISH
THAT BRIBES OR OTHER ILLEGAL PAYMENTS WERE MADE
AND THAT SEC DOES NOT HAVE INFO THAT ANY BRIBE WAS
PAID. HE ASKED IF SUBSTANCE OF U.S. REPLY COULD BE
MADE PUBLIC. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT WAS PRIVILEGE
OF GUATEMALN GOVERNMENT IF IT SO WISHED.

4. IN CONVERSTION WITH PRESIDENT LAUGERUD EEVENING
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JULY 16 AMBASSADOR FOUND THE PRESIDENT RELATIVELY

RELAXED AND PHILOSOPHICAL ABOUT THE DEL MONTE
PROBLEM BUT CONCERNED LEST IRRESPONSIBLE PRESS
SPECULATION OVER IDENTITY OF "CONSULTANT" INJURE
INNOCENT PERSONS. PRESIDENT ALSO FELT MATTER MUST
BE THOROUGHLY AIRED TO DISPEL OTHER SUSPICIONS
WHICH CHARGES OF THIS NATURE COULD AROUSE.
MELOY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: R1 19880621 MCMANAWAY, CLAYTON E
Errors: N/A
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